

Ontario Normal College Monthly.

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Ontario Normal College Monthly

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All ideals are based on the real and practical because an ideal if ever realized, is a development of existing conditions. This is true of the individual and the state. The Government of Ontario through the Educational Department has recognized this principle for many years by giving the teacher a unique legal position. The main object of this legislation is not so much to favor the teacher personally as to enable him in practice to carry out certain general ideals (training of intelligent, industrious, honest citizens, etc.) along side of which his own individualistic ideals are necessarily incidental and subordinate. Nothing is said for the present as to the relative importance, vitality or conflict existing between general ideals as represented by the state and individual ideals as represented by a section of the state. It is highly important that every teacher should know not only the ideal that he is expected to realize for the state through himself and his pupils but he should also know the practical means placed at his disposal in order to realize those ideals.

Circumstances are frequently such that it is not necessary or expedient for the teacher to assert to the full his legal privileges. Cases, however,

too often arise where it would be disastrous to the highest interests of all concerned if he did not. Space is so limited in the Monthly that we can only give without details a few general directions from a legal standpoint which are most frequently required by the professional teacher.

Agreements—(1) The teacher and trustees must be duly qualified in order to be able to enter into a legal contract.

(2) This agreement belongs to a special class which for legal reasons must be in writing to be binding.

(3) A very important part of a teacher's agreement is the seal of the board and the proper signatures. There is no agreement without the seal.

(4) Do not delay obtaining your agreement after being engaged as a teacher.

(5) The form of agreement supplied by the Education Department is the best obtainable. It has been arranged to protect all parties concerned.

Resignation and Dismissal --- (1) Where a legitimate agreement has been in force, notice of resignation, etc. must be given in writing.

(2) A month's notice, etc. must date from the first day of a calendar month. If I hand in my resignation dated April 17th, 1902, I will be free not May 17th, but May 31st.

(3) In case a teacher resigns before termination of his year, what portion of the year's salary should he receive? Suppose the teacher receives \$1000 per